

### **Amendments to the Claims**

**1. (Original)** A reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease, which comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of (i) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, (ii) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, (iii) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a FLICE inhibitory protein, and (iv) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ .

**2. (Original)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 1, which comprises (i) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, (ii) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, (iii) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a FLICE inhibitory protein, and (iv) a substance having a specific affinity for a gene of a glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ .

**3. (Previously Amended)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of (v) a substance having a specific affinity for a cytochrome oxidase subunit I gene and (vi) a substance having a specific affinity for a cytochrome b gene.

**4. (Previously Amended)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 1, wherein the substance having a specific affinity is an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide probe.

**5. (Previously Amended)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 1, wherein the substance having a specific affinity is an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide primer pair.

**6. (Original)** A reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease, which comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of (i) a substance having a specific affinity for type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, (ii) a substance having a specific affinity for Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, (iii) a substance having a specific affinity for FLICE inhibitory protein, and (iv) a substance having a specific affinity for glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ .

**7. (Original)** A reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 6, which comprises (i) a substance having a specific affinity for type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, (ii) a substance having a specific affinity for Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, (iii) a substance having a specific affinity for FLICE inhibitory protein, and (iv) a substance having a specific affinity for glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ .

**8. (Previously Amended)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 6 which further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of (v) a substance having a specific affinity for a cytochrome oxidase subunit I and (vi) a substance having a specific affinity for cytochrome b.

**9. (Previously Amended)** The reagent for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 6, wherein the substance having a specific affinity is an antibody or a fragment thereof.

**10. (Cancelled)**

**11. (Cancelled)**

**12. (Original)** A method for diagnosing Crohn's disease, which comprises the steps of

- (a) taking a biological sample from an animal that developed or is associated with a risk of developing Crohn's disease, and
- (b) analyzing the expression of at least one protein selected from the group consisting

of type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, FLICE inhibitory protein and glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ , in the biological sample.

**13. (Original)** The method for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 12, which further comprises analyzing the expression of at least one protein selected from the group consisting of cytochrome oxidase subunit I and cytochrome b.

**14. (Cancelled)**

**15. (Previously Added)** The method for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 12, wherein the biological sample is an ileum tissue or colon tissue derived from an animal.

**16. (New)** A method for diagnosing Crohn's disease, which comprises the steps of

(a) taking a biological sample from a human that has developed or is associated with a risk of developing Crohn's disease, the sample being obtained from colon tissue or intestine tissue,

(b) analyzing the level of gene expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of a gene encoding type 6 protein phosphatase regulated by interleukin 2, a gene encoding a Traf 2 and Nck interacting kinase, a gene encoding FLICE inhibitory protein and a gene encoding glucocorticoid receptor  $\alpha$ , in the biological sample, wherein an increased level of gene expression is an indicator of Crohn's disease, and

(c) diagnosing Crohn's disease based upon a finding of an increased level of gene expression.

**17. (New)** The method for diagnosing Crohn's disease according to claim 16, which further comprises analyzing the level of gene expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of a gene encoding cytochrome oxidase subunit I gene and a gene encoding cytochrome b.